

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is issuing this notice to advise the public that the KYTC is initiating a planning study for the following proposed highway project:

Interstate 66 (I-66)

From the William Natcher Parkway to the Louie B. Nunn Parkway
in Warren/Edmonson Counties, Kentucky
KYTC Item # 3-66.00

The I-66 project is part of a proposed Transamerica Transportation Corridor from the Atlantic Coast of Virginia to the Pacific Coast in California, in accordance with the legislative intent of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991 and subsequent Federal transportation legislation. This highway is to pass through southern Kentucky and will generally be centered on the cities of Pikeville, Jenkins, Hazard, London, Somerset, Columbia, Bowling Green, Hopkinsville, Benton, and Paducah. Segments of the corridor across Kentucky are in various stages of project development ranging from corridor studies to final design. The I-66 planning study will address alternatives and issues related to the development of an interstate highway that would provide continuity of I-66 between the Natcher and Nunn Parkways and improve accessibility throughout the region.

During the development of this planning study, comments will be solicited from appropriate Federal, state, and local agencies, as well as other interested persons and the general public, in accordance with requirements set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and subsequent Federal regulations and guidelines developed by the Executive Office of the President's Council on Environmental Quality and the United State Department of Transportation for the implementation of the NEPA process.

This planning study will include a scoping process for the early identification of potential alternatives for and environmental issues and impacts related to the proposed project. At this time, the level of environmental documentation that will ultimately be prepared is not known. However, if an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is prepared for the proposed project in the future, the information gained through the scoping process in this planning study may be used as input to the scoping process for the development of that EIS. If an EIS is prepared in the future, written comments on the scope of alternatives and impacts will still be considered at that time, after the filing of the Notice of Intent (NOI).

